

Assembly Bill No. 1907

CHAPTER 99

An act to amend Section 18951 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to child abuse.

[Approved by Governor July 21, 2006. Filed with
Secretary of State July 21, 2006.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1907, Lieu. Office of Child Abuse Prevention: multidisciplinary personnel.

Under existing law, the Office of Child Abuse Prevention is established in the State Department of Social Services. The office is authorized to allocate funding for child abuse treatment and prevention projects, including multidisciplinary services. Existing law defines "multidisciplinary personnel" for purposes of child abuse prevention services as a team of 3 or more persons trained in the prevention, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect cases and who are qualified to provide a broad range of services related to child abuse. Under existing law, a multidisciplinary personnel team may include, among others, psychiatrists, psychologists, and other trained counseling personnel.

This bill would revise the definition of multidisciplinary personnel to include marriage and family therapists.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 18951 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

18951. As used in this chapter:

- (a) "Child" means an individual under the age of 18 years.
- (b) "Child services" means services for or on behalf of children, which shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - (1) Protective services.
 - (2) Caretaker services.
 - (3) Day care services, including dropoff care.
 - (4) Homemaker services or family aides.
 - (5) Counseling services.
- (c) "Adult services" means services for or on behalf of a parent of a child, which shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - (1) Access to voluntary placement, long or short term.
 - (2) Counseling services before and after a crisis.

(3) Homemaker services or family aides.

(d) “Multidisciplinary personnel” means any team of three or more persons who are trained in the prevention, identification and treatment of child abuse and neglect cases and who are qualified to provide a broad range of services related to child abuse. The team may include but not be limited to:

(1) Psychiatrists, psychologists, marriage and family therapists, or other trained counseling personnel.

(2) Police officers or other law enforcement agents.

(3) Medical personnel with sufficient training to provide health services.

(4) Social workers with experience or training in child abuse prevention.

(5) Any public or private school teacher, administrative officer, supervisor of child welfare and attendance, or certificated pupil personnel employee.

(e) “Child abuse” as used in this chapter means a situation in which a child suffers from any one or more of the following:

(1) Serious physical injury inflicted upon the child by other than accidental means.

(2) Harm by reason of intentional neglect or malnutrition or sexual abuse.

(3) Going without necessary and basic physical care.

(4) Willful mental injury, negligent treatment, or maltreatment of a child under the age of 18 years by a person who is responsible for the child’s welfare under circumstances that indicate that the child’s health or welfare is harmed or threatened thereby, as determined in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Director of Social Services.

(5) Any condition that results in the violation of the rights or physical, mental, or moral welfare of a child or jeopardizes the child’s present or future health, opportunity for normal development or capacity for independence.

(f) “Parent” means any person who exercises care, custody and control of the child as established by law.